

Transportation Enhancement Program

Applicant Workshop Summer 2006



The Transportation Enhancement program requires a relationship to surface transportation but is a set aside for non-traditional highway projects.

These projects are intended to improve nonmotorized transportation, enhance the public's traveling experience, revitalize communities and improve the quality of life.



Danville Train Station, City of Danville





Train Trestle, City of Danville





Dan Daniel Trail, City of Danville





Program History

- In 1991, the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) amended Title 23 establishing the Surface Transportation Program
- Section 133 (d) (2) required a 10% set-aside per state for Enhancement activities
- The Transportation Enhancement program was continued with passage of TEA-21 signed in 1998; and SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) legislation enacted in August 2005
- SAFETEA-LU will be in effect through 2009



Basic Guidelines

- Anyone can apply as long as they have a governmental entity to sponsor the project
- This is a reimbursable program, not a grant
- A minimum 20% local match is required
- A public hearing is required prior to application for funds
- The project must have a local government or governmental agency resolution of support
- If the project is in an MPO area, an MPO endorsement is required (EXCEPTION: the Northern Virginia MPO has waived this requirement)



Federal Requirements

- Federal authorization is required at each developmental phase
- Design must adhere to AASHTO standards
- Facility must be ADA accessible and meet ADA guidelines
- Facility must be open and available to the public
- Construction requires a competitive bidding process with an award to the lowest bidder – no negotiation permitted



Market Square, City of Fredericksburg





Project Eligibility

Must have a relationship to the *surface* transportation system

AND

Must qualify under at least one of the 12 eligible Enhancement Activities



Relationship to Surface Transportation

A relationship may be established by:

<u>Function</u> – sidewalk, trail, visitor center, depot

Impact – mitigation of highway runoff; displaying artifacts found as a result of roadway construction

<u>Proximity</u> – acquisition of a scenic easement; removal of non-conforming billboards

*Note: proximity alone is not enough to establish a relationship



Activity 1: Pedestrian & Bicycle Facilities

Eligible

- New or reconstructed sidewalks, crosswalks, and curb ramps
- Shared-use trails
- Bicycle racks, lockers and bus racks
- Bike lanes or widened shoulders for bicycles
- Bike and pedestrian bridges or underpasses

Not Eligible

- Maintenance activities
- Recreational facilities
- Activities conducted as a routine or incidental part of new roadway projects:
 - Bike lanes
 - Sidewalks
 - Landscaping



Sidewalk Improvements, Town of Gloucester





Radford Pathways, City of Radford





Riverfront Access, Town of Occoquan





Activity 2: Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety and Educational Activities

Eligible

- Non-construction bicycle and pedestrian safety related activities:
 - Safety campaign or promotion
 - Safety training
 - Training materials, videotapes, maps, and brochures

Not Eligible

- Activities that are currently funded and provided by the community:
 - Police Bike Patrols
 - School Safety Patrols



Bicycle Safety Campaign





Activity 3: Acquisition of Scenic Easements & Scenic or Historic Sites

Eligible

- Acquisition of scenic or historic land including battlefields, that enhance the transportation experience
- Acquisition of conservation easements to preserve scenic vistas and historic landscapes
- Purchase of buildings in historic districts

Not Eligible

- Land that may later be developed in a manner degrading the scenic character
- Land purchased to protect an internal view shed



Saylor's Creek Battlefield, Prince Edward County





Todd's Tavern, Spotsylvania County





Activity 4: Scenic or Historic Highway Programs including Welcome Centers

<u>Eligible</u>

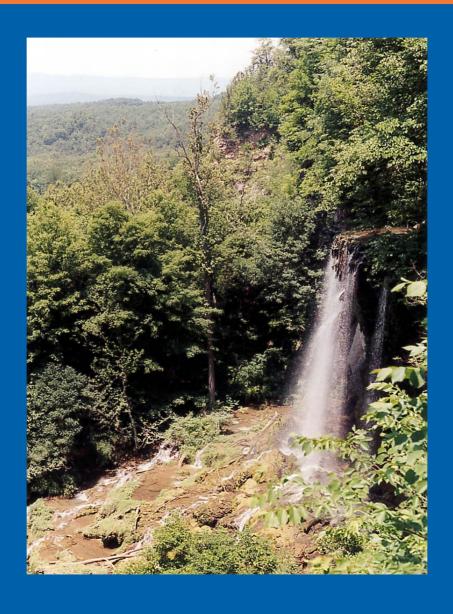
- Pull-offs and overlooks
- Interpretive markers and designation signs
- Tourist and welcome centers that support and interpret scenic/historic highways or scenic/historic sites

Not Eligible

- Construction or repair of safety rest areas
- Maintenance, staffing, or operating costs of welcome centers



Falling Springs Overlook, Alleghany County





Interpretive / Designation Signage





Bedford Visitor Center, Bedford County





Bedford Visitor Center





Activity 5: Landscaping and Scenic Beautification

Eligible

- Landscaping along streets, trails, historic highways, and waterfronts
- Street furniture
- Historic lighting fixtures
- Gateways

Not Eligible

Maintenance activities such as mowing and pruning



Depot Square, Town of Purcellville





Hilton Village, City of Newport News





Light Fixtures, City of Manassas





Courthouse Green, Town of Charlotte Courthouse





Historic Eastville Inn, Northampton County





Activity 6: Historic Preservation

<u>Eligible</u>

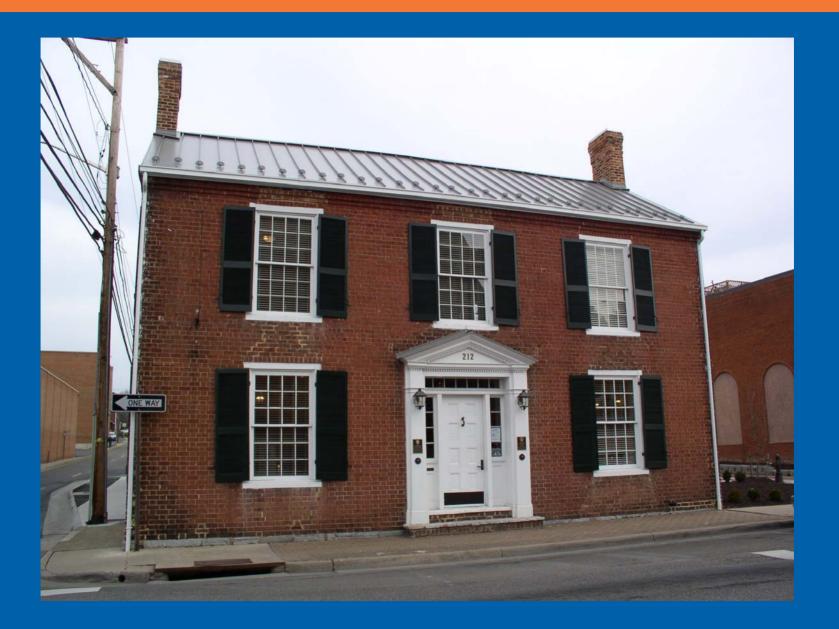
- Restoration and reuse of historic buildings for transportation related purposes
- Non-motorized access improvements to historic buildings and sites
- Preservation of scenic and / or historic site within an historic district

Not Eligible

- Replica of historic transportation facility
- Restoration of any historic structure not having a relationship to transportation



Hardesty-Higgins House, City of Harrisonburg





Hardesty-Higgins Transportation Museum





Hardesty-Higgins Visitor Center



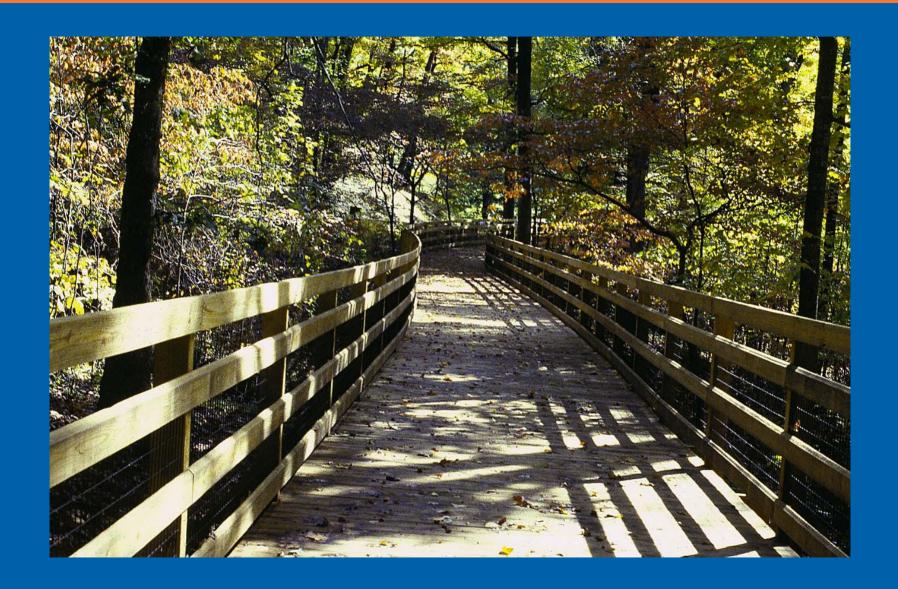


Tobacco Warehouse, Town of Urbanna





Trail to Monticello, Albemarle County





Activity 7: Rehabilitation of Historic Transportation Buildings, Structures or Facilities

Eligible

- Railway depots and train stations
- Rail trestles, bridges and tunnels
- Lighthouses
- Canal facilities
- Historic inns and taverns

Not Eligible

- Properties that will operate on a profit basis
- Properties that will not be open to the public
- Maintenance and operating expenses



Train Station, City of Manassas





Train Station, Town of Farmville





Staunton River Battlefield, Charlotte County





Rice's Hotel & Hughlett's Tavern, Northumberland County





Activity 8: Preservation of Abandoned Railway Corridors & Conversion to Trails

Eligible

- Acquisition of abandoned railroad R/W for use as a trail facility
- Planning, design, and construction of multi-use trails

Not Eligible

Projects solely for rail preservation



Virginia Blue Ridge Railway Trail, Nelson County





Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail, Roanoke County





James River Footbridge, Amherst County





Activity 9: Inventory, Control and Removal of Outdoor Advertising

Eligible

- Creation of a billboard inventory
- Purchase and removal of illegal and non-conforming billboards

Not Eligible

 Billboards listed under VDOT's current billboard removal program



Activity 10: Archeological Planning & Research

Eligible

- Recordation and public exhibit of artifacts previously recovered along a transportation corridor
- Developing interpretive signs, exhibits and guides
- Archeological research on sites eligible for TE funding

Not Eligible

 Projects strictly providing for excavation and archeological study



Wolf Creek Indian Village, Bland County





Wolf Creek Museum





Activity 11: Environmental Mitigation to Address Water Pollution & Wildlife Protection

Eligible

- Storm drain stenciling and river cleanups
- Wetlands acquisition and restoration to filter highway run-off
- Detention and sediment basins as related to water pollution
- Wildlife underpasses or overpasses

Not Eligible

- Improvements that are required by law for federalaid highway projects
- Projects that don't maintain habitat connectivity for threatened and endangered species



Wildlife Underpass, Fairfax County





Activity 12: Establishment of Transportation Museums

<u>Eligible</u>

- Construction of a new facility or conversion of an existing structure
 - museum must meet the 7 criteria for eligibility
- Purchase of artifacts and fabrication of displays

Not Eligible

- Land and/or building purchase beyond that needed for the transportation museum
- Air museum or any artifacts related to aviation or space travel
- Operating and maintenance costs



Steamboat Era Museum, Town of Irvington





Canal Basin Square, Town of Scottsville





Bateau Demonstration





Canal Lock Demonstration





Schooner Virginia, City of Norfolk





Robert Russa Moton Museum, Town of Farmville





Applicant vs. Sponsor

The application references both an Applicant and a Project Sponsor

These may be the same

If a non-profit group applies however, they must have a local government, state, or federal agency sponsoring the project. This governmental agency must be identified on the application as Project Sponsor.



Federal Enhancement Funds Requested

- This is the dollar amount of federal funds being requested in this application. It cannot exceed 80% of the total project / phase cost
- Do not include prior or future funding requests
- Do not include match or other non-federal funds
- Federal funds requested on any single application cannot exceed \$1 million



Match Required

This is the 20% local match requirement – the 20% is over and above any grant amount you receive. The 20% match does not equal 20% of the grant amount

EX: If you request \$50,000 in federal funds to pay for 80% of your project costs, the match would be computed as follows:

 $$50,000 \div 0.8 = $62,500 \text{ project costs}$

\$62,500 - \$50,000 = \$12,500 match



Match Breakdown by Source

- Provide a description and estimated value of cash, services, materials, and / or volunteer labor anticipated to be used to fulfill the match requirement
- Identify all other funding sources including other grant awards, donations, etc.
- Identify if the source is confirmed (in hand) or anticipated



Restored Caboose, Town of Victoria





Attachment A: Project Budget

- Application must include a budget reflecting the total estimated cost of the project. This should include all design, land acquisition, utility and construction costs. If the project is to be done in multiple phases, identify the costs for each proposed phase.
- Be as detailed as possible including all incidental costs. In some cases not all items are eligible for the program; a detailed budget will help identify these.
- Include allowance for VDOT project charges on environmental document reviews, plan reviews, approval of appraisals, and inspection as required; typically 2 – 5% of the project cost.



Attachment B: Project Selection Criteria

- Relationship to Transportation
- Demonstrated Need
- Project Usefulness and Benefit
- Amenities/Support Facilities
- Educational/Historical Value
- Project Resources



Demonstrated Need

- Evidence of economic, safety, transportation, or preservation need
- Documentation or photos of existing deficiencies
- Evidence of other revitalization and / or improvement efforts underway or planned
- Evidence to show current facilities are inadequate
- Clearly identify if the proposed project includes new sidewalks and/or trail facilities



Project Usefulness / Benefit

- Project will serve as a visitor center or transportation museum
- Documentation of community support
- Evidence provided to show project will have a positive economic impact
- Project will connect multiple transportation facilities (trails, sidewalks, public transit, etc.)
- Project will provide an alternate mode of transportation and air quality benefits
- Project will increase tourism by being a primary destination



Amenities and Support Facilities

- Support facilities such as parking, restrooms, and bike racks included in proposal or available
- ADA access and / or improvements included
- Safety considerations included in proposal
- Multiple modes of access available or proposed (road, sidewalks, public transit, etc.)
- Pull-offs, informational kiosks, maps included as part of the project



Educational and Historic Value

- Site has local scenic / historic significance
- Project includes restoration of an historic transportation facility
- Project is located within or will enhance an historic district or site
- Interpretation and / or distribution of educational / historical information planned
- Site is on or eligible for the National Register



Project Resources

- Financial support and required property have been secured
- Previous phase under construction or complete
- Preliminary design has begun / is underway
- Evidence of strong community involvement (fund raisers, volunteers, etc.)
- This request will fully fund a project phase or complete the project



Prior TE Funding Received

- This portion should only be filled out for projects that have received prior TE funds
- If possible, identify how prior funds have been allocated. For example: Began engineering (50% complete); Acquisition of property; Partial funding for construction of Phase I

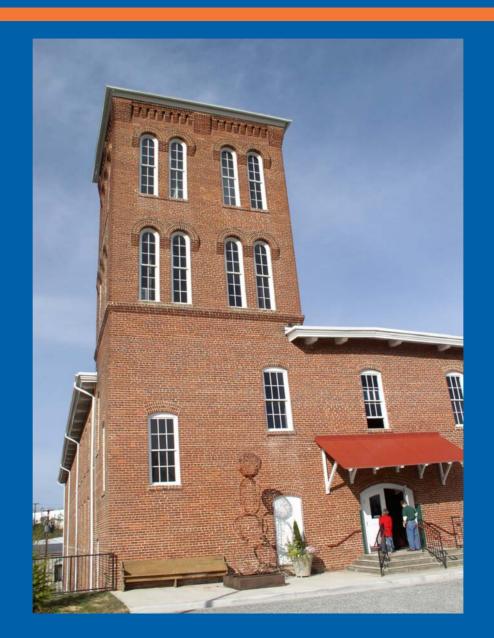


Application Tips

- Include pictures and location map of the proposed project area; color code different phases
- Include letters of support from local organizations, businesses, and citizens
- Include any conceptual drawings available
- Include a "responsibly" prepared estimate for projected cost
- Document community participation
- Provide data to support projected economic benefits, revitalization, and user-ship



The Prizery, Town of South Boston





Selection Process

- Applications are scored by EN staff, scoring committee, and VDOT District representatives
- Scores are averaged and presented to the CTB members in rank order

 District CTB representatives make first selections then at-large members meet as a committee to make "statewide" selections



CTB Policy Decisions

- Transportation Board has established policy to divide the annual allocation of TE funds into equal shares amongst the Secretary of Transportation and CTB members
- Transportation Board has committed to funding a minimum 25% of the federal funds requested for projects that are selected
- Transportation Board has set an award limit of \$1 million per application per year
- Transportation Board requires that the project be completed within four (4) years of the availability of federal funding
- Transportation Board has modified the score sheets to assist traditional sidewalk and trail projects in scoring



Tentative 2006 – 2007 Timetable

- May / June 2006 application workshops
- November 1, 2006 application deadline
- Nov. 2006 Feb. 2007 scoring of new applications by Enhancement staff and scoring committee
- March 2007 Tentative Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) selections announced
- May 2007 Final CTB selections announced
- October 2007 new Federal fiscal year begins



Locally Administered

These are locally administered projects. If your project is awarded federal TE funds you will be responsible for all phases of project development. You will also be responsible for meeting all state and federal laws and regulations.

We offer public workshops for Project Sponsors after selections are made and will review the applicable state and federal requirements with you.



For Further Information

See our website at: www.VirginiaDOT.org

From the Home Page select "Programs"

Click on "Transportation Enhancement Projects"

- General program information
- Application
- MPO Listing
- Sample Resolution
- Contact Us



Orange Train Station, Town of Orange





Mill Street, Town of Occoquan

